Welcome to the March Issue of the BestTransport Newsletter,

There’s a lot of talk around lack of capacity in the trucking world, exacerbated by a shortage of drivers, and for that matter, the retention of the drivers the carrier already has. Shippers should be aware of these challenges, and not get caught unprepared. While solid relationships with your carriers are an important part of risk mitigation, having the capacity to make last minute adjustments, source additional capacity, replace underperforming carriers is not just prudent business, it’s a survival necessity! Transportation Management Systems are now, more than ever, a critical part of a shipper’s strategic logistics plan, regardless of company size. Read along this month as we explore the challenges being faced for capacity and driver retention.

We'd love to hear your thoughts on this issue. Please feel free to share them with us. Drop us a note at newsletter@besttransport.com

-The Editors

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DC Velocity Survey
Software in DCs

Re-shoring: Hype or Reality?
Read our Whitepaper
DC Velocity recently conducted a survey of its readers to better understand their use of supply chain software in their warehouses and transportation operations. Those surveyed were asked about Warehouse Management Systems (WMS), Transportation Management Systems (TMS) as well as big data analysis software. Fascinating results. aRead more about current trends, and get the complete article here.

Low Trucking Capacity?
An interesting article on trucking capacity dipping to a new low, reflecting fleet consolidation, equipment reduction. Implication for shippers who are trying to grow their business but may not be employing the mode efficient means to ensure that they have the shipping capacity they need to support their growth.

Driver Shortage
There are many things that could slow our long pull to economic growth after the Great Recession. Sometimes overlooked are the things we take for granted...until it’s too late. It’s hard to fuel business growth if you can’t get your goods to your customers, and for a variety of reasons carriers are struggling, not just with capacity, but with getting qualified and reliable drivers.

Reducing Turnover
It’s tough to provide consistent service, let alone great customer service if your carrier can’t retain their drivers. In addition to making sure your shippers are running a solid operation, you’ll want to make sure that you have the means to make quick adjustments if problems arise.

NEWSWORTHY

There has been a lot of news lately about the phenomenon of "re-shoring." You may be wondering if the rumors about this trend are real - or just hype. Re-shoring is real, and may represent a real opportunity for you: Think lower inventories and carrying costs, shorter cycle times and better shipping options. Improved customer service. Less risk.